

NEWS FROM THE INTERIOR.

(From our various correspondents.)

PARRAMATTA.

UPON Mr. Barry taking his seat as Commissioner of the Court of Requests, on Monday last, Mr. Barry rose and said, that he had been informed by many of the most respectable inhabitants of the town and district of Parramatta, to express their great satisfaction upon seeing Mr. Barry resume his seat. Mr. Barry said, that he was quite aware that he had no *locus standi* that Court, at present, as an attorney, but that he was, in fact, as he now did with some interest, an attorney, that happy as the inhabitants of the district of Parramatta were, to see Mr. Barry, they would be much more happy to see him assisted by two of their fellow-citizens, presiding over a Court having a jurisdiction over debts amounting to £30. The inhabitants had desired him expressly to state, that they did not wish to convey any invidious or side-wind censure upon Mr. Manning—quite the contrary—during the period that that gentleman had presided over the Court as the *locus tenens* of Mr. Barry, he had given a rational action to his clients, but the great length of time during which Mr. Barry had presided over the Court, which the zealous and upright manner in which he had performed the duties of his office, had given him a strong claim upon their good opinion and respect, and that they would look to him to use his utmost exertions to prosecute the duties of the Court. Perhaps he (Mr. Barry) might be permitted to say, that he was perhaps the only person in the colony who had had practical experience of the working of a £30 Court; and he was months that he had practised in such a Court in Van Diemen's Land, it worked well, and was attended with unimpaired success to the public. It was true, that law had been disallowed in Downing-street, but it had since been re-enacted, and was now working well. He (Mr. L.) would repeat the expressions of good feeling with which he was instructed to welcome the Commissioner.

Mr. Barry said, he thanked the gentlemen who had deputed Mr. Lyons to express so gratifying a compliment to him; but he could hardly think that he could appear with much advantage after so able a gentleman as Mr. Manning, who had given the inhabitants of Parramatta so much satisfaction. With regard to the more important matter of Mr. Lyons's address, he would say, that he hoped, and fully anticipated, that the extended jurisdiction of the Court would take place from the 1st of January; and that the law as it was at Parramatta, it would be as Commissioner of the Court, and power to decide debts amounting to £30.

LOWER HAWKESBURY.

OCTOBER 17, 1843.—The nomination of Councillors for the District of the Wollombi and Macdonald River, which has just appeared, indicating that the people to represent the interests of the latter locality, seems to have taken the Macdonald men by surprise, at finding the majority of representatives has been selected from the Wollombi community. For our part, we have every disposition to be satisfied with the selection of those gentlemen of the upper district, who are persons well known to us; but at the same time, we must confess our disappointment in the official announcement which includes the two portions of the district as a body under one Ward, feeling satisfied (as must be evident to every person acquainted with the localities) that the interests of each particular portion of the district demand separate and distinct bodies to regulate its movements, and direct its public works. In the first place, the distance intervening between the township of Wollombi and the temporary Court-house on the Macdonald River, upwards of forty miles, is a material objection, if not an insuperable bar, to any regularity of attendance in the distant members; and, secondly, the habits of the people, and the localities and necessities of the two places, are so essentially and materially different, so perfectly unconnected, that for any real benefit to be derived by this unseparated body, the representatives of the two ends are not well connected with the Councils of Bathurst or Camden! Another very material question arises. Where is it proposed to hold the meetings of the Council? We presume at head quarters, as in the multitude of councillors there is wisdom. If, consequently, the Wollombi is to be the seat of local legislation, we conceive that the very fact must negative the representation of the Macdonald *in toto*. It cannot for a moment be supposed, that parties situated like the two Councils nominated for our part, whose agrarian pursuits demand their constant attendance near home, can afford to give up their time and attention to public business which would necessarily lead them so often, and to such a considerable distance, and consequently for so long a period from home—indeed, the proposition is as unreasonable as it would be unjust. If, however, Messrs. Thompson and Walker are to sit as Councils at "at home"—it must be equally clear, that the interests of the District demands an *ad hoc* members, for, however these gentlemen may be disposed to do so, we should say they would feel a sort of diffidence, not to say reluctance, in undertaking their onerous duties single handed, while they could meet a pleasurable security in being collected with five or six of their immediate neighbours. For these reasons we trust that His Excellency will see fit to disjoin us from the Wollombi, and we have no doubt but when the sense of the Macdonald is taken, our member, Captain Dunmore, will be solicited to present a petition to that effect.

Her Majesty's revenue cutter *Ranger* is on a cruise off the Hawkesbury, and at present anchored off the Ferry-house at Wiseman's—considerable noise has been bruited, we learn, amongst the croakers, that this branch of the revenue is often held in this manner; to the contrary; and since the establishment of these custom-houses gentry at the Heads, they have been constantly upon the look out. We presume that this present trip, if it produces no material effects—no outward and visible sign at least tend to induce a belief that Her Majesty's officers are on the *qui vive*. We cannot too strongly deprecate the unbecomingly feeling displayed by certain parties on our river, in driving cattle some dozen or more miles to the pound on the Upper M'Donald, when there is one within a mile and a half of their dwellings—the Act is fortunately pretty stringent in this matter, and we rejoice that a signal example has been made during the week, of an individual for wilfully driving a neighbour's horses to the distant poundkeeper, when he knew the owner, with whom he professed to be friendly, and was aware that he should drive the cattle to the nearest pound, about two miles from his house—he was fined £5 and costs. The weather con-

tinues fine, with extreme heat during the forenoon. We have had a few slight showers during the week, which have tended to bring forward the fruit; and at present in great luxuriance in our quarter, and both the field and garden indicate their refreshing greenness, the season's openness. There is abundance of feed, and both wheat and corn support their early promise of good. We are glad to find that the subscription in Mr. Barry's favour is going on swimmingly—despite the hard times a considerable amount has already been collected, and we trust that the appointed day, arrangements may be so far progressed as to do away with the necessity of trouble to our respected fellow-settler. Some considerable sales in maize have been concluded during the past week at an advanced price for the Windsor market; and we should say that holders would do well to send their grain there in preference to Sydney, as a much higher price can at all times be obtained there, and the slight extra manual labour, by water, can be an object of slight amount.

First and very material means of assistance during the present depression in our agriculture, as well as commercial system, we are surprised that it has not been more generally the custom to lower the rents, which in very many instances, even in good times, are disproportionately high. To argue that because rents are high, the land is consequently too much, from its yielding a particular annual rent, it must follow of a necessity that its value cannot be diminished, as being visionary and absurd a method of reasoning, as to lay down as a rule, that any other marketable commodity should be sold at a high price, and then consequently (to suit the owner's notion) be henceforth estimated at a like value. As the various markets are liable to fluctuation from particular circumstances which affect their prices, so we should deem it a matter of imperative necessity, that the rental of land, especially, should be guided by the good or evil of the times. We well know that labour is, although the most marketable, the most capricious and unstable commodity as regards price; and that whilst one year we may almost command our own, in all probability, the next will find the same amount and dissipation of labourers necessitated to employ them for whatever remuneration offered. If, therefore, the same description and amount of labour is liable to such fluctuations to meet particular exigencies, why in the name of reason should not the wealthier portion of the community be satisfied with a proportionate reduction in the amount of their rents? The merchant as it respects the labourer's work are in no wise less valuable, in point of skill and labourers, in bad times than in good; yet he is obliged to find an equal amount of manual dexterity and plodding industry as when in the receipt of perhaps double the amount of his remuneration. The character of the work is in no way deteriorated, and the remuneration has decreased! So in like manner the locality of certain farms, their agricultural or pastoral capabilities, or their value in other respects, remain the same; and it is but feasible, that although their estimated worth for certain purposes may be induced to a high value, that that rental should be liable to the same fluctuation as the artisan's or labourer's wages from precisely the same causes. The circumstances of the times, and consequent depreciation in the marketable value of both men and things. In such a case, the old saying that "a thing's worth is just what it will bring," is clearly exemplified.

To-morrow is the day fixed for opening the New Church at the township, when we are informed, that a full attendance of the residents on the Upper Branch of our river is expected. The building has at length been erected, and the reception of a congregation, and we presume that being erected upon the plan of a Church and school-house, a master will be forthwith appointed. A good school in this locality has long been needed, and from the numerous families, most of which contain many members, in the immediate vicinity, we trust that the school will be well patronized. We trust shortly to be enabled to record that other proprietors have followed Mr. Sullivan's example, and that building generally upon their purchases, the present but a *locus in vacuo*, may have some claim to one in due time. As an inducement to this, we trust that the first acts of our Local Council will be, the commencing with the parish road forthwith, which, by affording a ready access to the township's site will do away with many of the impediments, both real and imaginary, at present added for non-commencement.

We cannot speak in too favourable terms of the increased promise held out by the hourly improvement in the wheat crop, nothing can exceed the luxuriance of the majority of the fields upon this river, and we learn from the late arrivals that the banks of the parent stream are studded with one continued succession of crops of grain, as abundant and as early as those which in the olden time gave to our river the appellation of the granary of the colony! The young maize shoots up, vigorous in stem, and healthy in appearance, which the few genial showers we have been visited with during the week tend to render it stronger. The winds blowing from the west and south-west, some idea of their violence may be inferred from the fact of their occasioning the main punt at the Ferry to rise her masts, and drive a considerable way up the river before being checked by a bank! The Roman Catholic Chapel at Wollombi is completed to its height, and presents a very chaste and imposing feature upon our river.

MAITLAND.

(From the Maitland Mercury.)
MAITLAND DISTRICT GAOL.—We were well pleased to see so large an attendance on Monday last at the meeting for petitioning the government and Legislative Council that the gaol at East Maitland be kept at once proceeded with. The petitioners have been very numerous, signed, and will be forwarded for presentation in a day or two. We cannot, however, allow the opportunity to pass without entering into some details to show that the request of the petitioners, in praying that the sum of £20000 voted last year be immediately expended, is just and reasonable. By a reference to the late census it will be seen that the population of the district within the jurisdiction of the Maitland Circuit Court consisted of 21,729 persons; and allowing since that time an increase of one-fifth, it may be estimated at 26,074. The population of the Maitland district in 1841, as near as

we can ascertain, was 16,978; making the same allowance as above, it may now be estimated at 20,373. The population of the Bathurst district was 8,475; it may now be estimated at 10,170. The population of Port Phillip was in the above year 117,338; and allowing that since 1841 the population of this district has been doubled, it now amounts to 23,476. In the year 1843 the following sums were expended in the erection of new gaols in the colony:—At Darlinghurst £2163; at Goulburn (not an assize town), £1895; at Bathurst £2349; at Parramatta (not an assize town), £1886; at Berri, £759; at Melbourne, £14,308; making a total of £27,260. Over and above the amount which was voted for that year, there was expended on the gaol and court house at Melbourne the sum of £5301, and on that at Berri £485; whilst towards the completion of the gaol at Maitland the sum of £3000 were voted, but not a farthing of it expended. In the year 1842 the sum of £31,829 was expended on public works, including gaols, roads, &c., in the middle district, and Port Phillip £33,727. Of this amount the following were all that were expended in the northern district:—£110; fitting up the court house at Newcastle, £170; fencing a road through Mr. Blair's property, Hunter River, £10; ditto, Wollombi road, £375; ditto, on the estate of F. Forbes, Esq., £52 for the breakwater, &c. The whole, therefore, appears that in this extensive district, which contains about one-sixth of the population of the colony, the trifling sum of £1563 was expended on public works in 1842, while in other districts the sum of £33,993 was devoted to that purpose during the same year. The amount expended in the northern district is, therefore, hereafter estimated at a like value. As the various markets are liable to fluctuation from particular circumstances which affect their prices, so we should deem it a matter of imperative necessity, that the rental of land, especially, should be guided by the good or evil of the times. We well know that labour is, although the most marketable, the most capricious and unstable commodity as regards price; and that whilst one year we may almost command our own, in all probability, the next will find the same amount and dissipation of labourers necessitated to employ them for whatever remuneration offered. If, therefore, the same description and amount of labour is liable to such fluctuations to meet particular exigencies, why in the name of reason should not the wealthier portion of the community be satisfied with a proportionate reduction in the amount of their rents? The merchant as it respects the labourer's work are in no wise less valuable, in point of skill and labourers, in bad times than in good; yet he is obliged to find an equal amount of manual dexterity and plodding industry as when in the receipt of perhaps double the amount of his remuneration. The character of the work is in no way deteriorated, and the remuneration has decreased! So in like manner the locality of certain farms, their agricultural or pastoral capabilities, or their value in other respects, remain the same; and it is but feasible, that although their estimated worth for certain purposes may be induced to a high value, that that rental should be liable to the same fluctuation as the artisan's or labourer's wages from precisely the same causes. The circumstances of the times, and consequent depreciation in the marketable value of both men and things. In such a case, the old saying that "a thing's worth is just what it will bring," is clearly exemplified.

headless whether he was classed or not by the agitators amongst the enemies of his noble lord. He would recommend other noble lords to pursue the same course. He had been long classed amongst the enemies of Ireland; but he found himself in very good company in the attacks made by the agitators of that country. The orders of the day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned.

Her Majesty's replies to the address of the House of Lords to her Majesty, of congratulation on the birth of a Princess, and of condolence on the death of the Duke of Sussex, were severally laid upon the table, and ordered to be entered on the journals.

Lord Brougham moved the second reading of the Townshend Peasage Bill. He said there could no longer exist a doubt but that Lord Leicester was a spurious issue, more particularly when he stated to their lordships that Lady Townshend had authorised him to say, that she had always protested against the whole proceeding, and that she had never been in the position of legitimate children of the Marquis Townshend.

Lord Cottenham said, that the evidence certainly led no doubt as to the facts of the case, but still they would, by a precedent for many, very many cases, which would be apt to pervade the convenience of this questioning the legitimacy of their brother's children. He thought great evil would result from there being cases of illegitimacy, and he begged to move for the repeal of the law which was the subject of the bill. He thought that the law which was the subject of the bill, was a very bad law, and he begged to move for the repeal of the law which was the subject of the bill.

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Lord Langdale said he had carefully read the evidence, and was entirely of opinion the preamble had been proved. He should, therefore, vote for the bill. The House then divided—55 Non-contented, 55 Majority for the second reading, 47 The bill was then read a second time, and the House adjourned.

Lord Brougham proposed an amendment in the clause which declared the children of the Marchioness Townshend illegitimate. The amendment was to the effect that they were not the children of the Marchioness. The amendment was to the effect that they were not the children of the Marchioness. The amendment was to the effect that they were not the children of the Marchioness.

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over eighteen years of age to return to underground labour. Lord Ashley contended that no case had been made out for the interference of the House. Why should a privilege not granted to England be extended to Scotland? The results had already proved to be beneficial in the relief of women, young girls, and children from a most degrading employment, to which they were wholly unqualified, and in which they were succeeded by men and boys, to the great satisfaction of the public. He had received various letters from Scotland and elsewhere, intimating that the agitation against the Mines and Collieries Act was the result of the selfish feelings of certain proprietors, who had compelled their workpeople to a reluctant consent to aid the opposition to that Act. He had no doubt but that cases of hardship had occurred under its operation, but the proprietors should preserve from want those unfortunate persons who, had been worn out in their service, and had been seeking to obtain a better measure repealed which had been but a short time in operation. He hoped the House would negative the proposition, and by so doing, affirm the principle that property had its duties as well as its rights.

Mr. Thorneley said he had, last autumn, been in the United States, and had urged on Mr. Tyler that in return for the concessions made by Sir R. Peel in his tariff, America should make a similar liberal policy towards England. That gentleman, however, declared that a bar almost insuperable was presented by our corn-laws to an extended trade between the two countries. A change in our policy would in all likelihood induce the Americans to adopt a similar policy.

Mr. Sturt said, that the advocates of free trade did not wish to legislate injuriously to the landed interest without making previous inquiry into the burdens to which it was subject. But those who alleged that peculiar burdens were upon the land should not refuse to grant inquiry into those burdens. Sir H. Douglas considered a repeal of the corn-laws as fatal to the best interests of the empire, commercial, manufacturing, and agricultural, and he should therefore give his decided opposition to the motion. England was the best customer of England, and his countrymen, small farmers, were, in reality, extending protection to the people.

Mr. Munts supported the motion, not because he thought the landowners were too highly protected, but because they protected themselves without protecting the labour of the poor. He thought that the labour of the poor was not protected by the operation of the corn-laws, and he thought that the labour of the poor was not protected by the operation of the corn-laws.

Lord Duncannon opposed the motion. Mr. P. M. Stewart admitted the soundness of the principles upon which Lord Ashley had acted, but he thought that the time for its application to the Scotch collieries ought to be extended. After some observations from Mr. Forbes, Mr. Brotherton, Mr. Lockhart, and Mr. Hindley, Mr. Alderman Thompson implored the House not to agree to a division by a majority of 101 to 32.

Mr. Roebuck then moved his resolution "That in no plan of education maintained and enforced by the state, should any attempt be made to inculcate peculiar religious opinions; because as such an attempt would be considered a plan for maintaining and sustaining while, on the one hand, the superiority of one sect over another, and the animosity and strife already existing among different religious denominations would thereby unavailingly be greatly increased, and the cordial co-operation of all sects and denominations, which is absolutely necessary to the maintenance of the public education, rendered impossible." The hon. and learned gentleman argued at great length that, as the great proportion of the population belonged to the Established Church, there could be no injury from the opinion of the inculcation of religious opinions, and he thought that the other hand, great mischief might be produced by the assertion of the principle of religious intolerance.

Sir J. Graham contended that a general feeling prevailed that education to be sound must be based on religion, and that the right of private judgment should be founded upon a previously acquired knowledge of the Scriptures. After some discussion, Mr. Roebuck replied, and on a division his motion was negatived by a majority of 156 to 60. The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the House adjourned.

Lord Stanley moved, in the House of Commons, for a committee of the whole House on his Canadian resolutions. He proposed, he said, to substitute a duty of 1s. upon Canadian flour as a substitute for a duty now varying from 1s. to 5s. At present there was no duty whatever on the import of foreign wheat into Canada, but he should propose, as a protection to the Canadian agriculturist, a duty of 3s. on the importation of American wheat into Canada, and he should also propose a permanent fixed duty of 1s. on the importation of Canadian wheat into England. Instead, therefore, of introducing a fixed duty by a backdoor, as he had been industriously represented, they might be said to be imposing a toll on that which had passed toll-free for the last sixteen years. Neither would it injure the milling interest, since there was no duty whatever provided for existing regulations. He was perfectly satisfied that the expense of smuggling would exceed the rate of duty, and, in fact, it had never been alleged that wheat was smuggled into Canada. He was satisfied, therefore, that the measure, without injuring our agricultural interest, would be a boon to Canada.

Mr. Labouchere said, that believing the measure to be adverse to the principle of free trade, without possessing any countervailing advantages, he would move, as an amendment, that an humble address should be presented to her Majesty, praying her to withhold her assent to the measure, and to direct the House to reconsider the proposition of a duty on the importation of foreign corn. Lord Stanley's motion was supported by Mr. Banks (pro-corn-law agriculturist), Mr. Liddle (ditto), Mr. Charles Buller (free-trader), and Mr. Gladstone. It was opposed by Mr. Thorneley (free-trader), Mr. Heathcote (pro-corn-law agriculturist), Mr. Miles (ditto), Lord Howick (free-trader), and Mr. Roebuck (ditto). The debate was adjourned on the motion of Mr. Woodhouse. Mr. Buller, as a free-trader, felt himself bound to support the motion of Lord Stanley. Lord Howick hoped the House would pause before it encouraged the investment of capital on the faith of protection, which must, ere long, be swept away. In the House of Lords, the presentation of a petition against Repeal from Belfast, by the Marquis of Downshire, elicited the support of the House, and the motion for the repeal of the corn-laws was settled in committee. General Johnson supported the motion. Mr. Ross said, he should abstain from

SALES BY AUCTION.

CHESHIRE CHERSE AND SCOTCH ALE.
M. R. T. S. MOIT will sell by public auction, at his Rooms, opposite the Bank of Australia, on THURSDAY, the 26th inst., at twelve o'clock precisely, the thirty-two very superior Canadian Collieries. Thirty casks, three dozen each, Scotch Ale. Terms at sale.

SALE OF FURNITURE.

MR. MORT will sell by auction, at his Rooms, opposite the Bank of Australia, on THURSDAY, the 26th inst., at twelve o'clock precisely, a large amount of goods consisting of Household furniture, &c. &c. Terms at sale.

POST OFFICE NOTICE.

MR. MORT will sell by auction, at his Rooms, opposite the Bank of Australia, on THURSDAY, the 26th inst., at twelve o'clock precisely, the thirty-two very superior Canadian Collieries. Thirty casks, three dozen each, Scotch Ale. Terms at sale.

EXTENSIVE SALE OF WINE.

MR. T. S. MOIT will sell by public auction, at his Rooms, opposite the Bank of Australia, on THURSDAY, the 26th inst., at twelve o'clock precisely, the thirty-two very superior Canadian Collieries. Thirty casks, three dozen each, Scotch Ale. Terms at sale.

BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEE.

MR. MORT will sell by auction, at his Rooms, opposite the Bank of Australia, on THURSDAY, the 26th inst., at twelve o'clock precisely, the thirty-two very superior Canadian Collieries. Thirty casks, three dozen each, Scotch Ale. Terms at sale.

SHARES IN THE HUNTER RIVER STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

MR. MORT will sell by auction, at his Rooms, opposite the Bank of Australia, on THURSDAY, the 26th inst., at twelve o'clock precisely, the thirty-two very superior Canadian Collieries. Thirty casks, three dozen each, Scotch Ale. Terms at sale.

TO BUTCHERS AND OTHER TRADE.

MR. MORT will sell by auction, at his Rooms, opposite the Bank of Australia, on THURSDAY, the 26th inst., at twelve o'clock precisely, the thirty-two very superior Canadian Collieries. Thirty casks, three dozen each, Scotch Ale. Terms at sale.

TO STAND THIS SEASON.

MR. MORT will sell by auction, at his Rooms, opposite the Bank of Australia, on THURSDAY, the 26th inst., at twelve o'clock precisely, the thirty-two very superior Canadian Collieries. Thirty casks, three dozen each, Scotch Ale. Terms at sale.

THE THOROUGH-BRED HORSE.

MR. MORT will sell by auction, at his Rooms, opposite the Bank of Australia, on THURSDAY, the 26th inst., at twelve o'clock precisely, the thirty-two very superior Canadian Collieries. Thirty casks, three dozen each, Scotch Ale. Terms at sale.

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